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241 595 the garden area is in a single clearing or several, its total size is heavily influenced by the number of wives a man has to cultivate the fields. A household with one wife tends to have a garden of about 50,000 square feet, while a second spouse increases the area to about 65,000, and a third to approximately 75,000. The areal increases are usually not simple multiples of the number of wives because the demand for food and beer to feed visitors tends to lag behind the increments in additional wives. These figures vary, of course, according to the consumption demands of the household, its number of visitors, and the industry of its inhabitants. A man who wishes to gain prestige may clear garden areas of larger size for each of his wives. In such a case, a household in which there are two wives may sometimes have a total garden of 100,000 square feet or more.

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By measuring the yield within a restricted section of garden, the writer was able to arrive at a rough estimate of the quantity of a single harvest per 10,000 square feet of cultivated land. The results indicate that a "one wife" household with a garden of some 50,000 square feet may yield these approximate amounts of the major crops: 300 bushels of manioc; a total of 180 bushels of *papa china*, Araceae corms and sweet potato combined; 300 pounds of peanuts; and 90 stems of plantains and bananas.

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The preparation of a garden begins with clearing the forest. The head of the household, sometimes assisted by a son or son-in-law, fells and trims the trees and clears the undergrowth with a steel axe and machete. His wife (wives) and daughters (if any) drag the slashings into piles, which are burned ten to fourteen days later, provided the weather is sufficiently dry. Women do not assist in making clearings for maize, since the slashings, in the case of that crop, are left unburned on the ground where they fall. Occasionally a man

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may invite his neighbors to help him make a clearing, but this practice is infrequent.

All the above crops, except maize, are planted together in the same cleared plot. Manioc plants, which are the largest in the garden, are spaced slightly less than two yards apart throughout, with the smaller plants between them. A line of plantain and banana trees separates the garden from the forest.

Crop planting is done with two aboriginal tools and the machete. The former are a sharp-pointed planting stick thrust into the soil to make seed holes, and a flat-bladed palm wood digging stick used as a lever to excavate holes for planting and digging up manioc and other tubers and corms. The machete also functions as an excavating tool in planting.

Times of planting and harvesting overlap and thereby assure a constant reaping of agricultural staples. Sweet potato, *papa china*, and Araceae species are planted at any time of the year. Sweet potato and *papa china* mature in about six months, while the Araceae tubers and the carrot-like *maya* require a year. Plantain and banana are planted during a full moon at any time of the year, and are harvested twelve to fifteen months later. "White" maize and peanuts are usually sown semiannually at the blooming of the *Iutsi* flower, maize maturing in seven months, the other crop in five.

The most important crop, sweet manioc, is planted and harvested daily in the same act. As the women dig up the manioc tubers, they place several cuttings from the same plant's stalk in the old hole and partially cover them with earth. Manioc matures in ten to twelve months, but the actual harvesting can, if desired, be delayed as much as an additional year. This continual replanting of the manioc crop on a year-round basis, as the individual plants are dug up, is an important factor in the reliability of Jívaro crop production. Thus the Jívaro, in a real sense, "store" much of